Training Programme for Personnel and Scientists going abroad

1507. SHRI JAGDISH PRASAD MATHUR: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any programme for technical and non-technical personnel going on deputation to Indian missions abroad, to impart them training on Indian culture, languages, values, an Indian philosophy, if so, the details thereof;

(b) if not, by when such an essential training programme will be offered with details of the duration, curriculum and institution which conduct such a training programme; and

(c) whether there is any special training programme for Scientists going on deputation to Indian missions abroad to have overview of policy and development of Science and Technology in India?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SMT. MARGARET ALVA): (a) and (b) No such training is being arranged. As the number of such officials is very small and they proceed abroad at varying points of time organised training programmes on Indian culture and philosophy are not practicable.

(c) The scientists being deputed receive a briefing on the relevant aspects.

Action against PSU's for not signing MOU(S)

1508. SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to refer to answer to Unstarred Question 139 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 29th August, 1991 and state:

(a) whether Government propose to sign MOUs with every PSU, if so, the details thereof; and

(b) what action Government propose to take against PSUs which are not willing to sign MOUs and continue to make heavy losses?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI P. K. THUNGON): (a) Yes, Sir. In due course Government propose to sign MOUs with all PSUs. During the year 1991-92 Government proposes to sign MOUs with about 70 PSUs as compared to 23 last year.

(b) Since an MOU has been adopted as a policy instrument for determining the relationship between the Government and a PSU irrespective of the fact whether it is loss or profit making, the question of willingness or otherwise to sign an MOU does not arise.

Market intervention operations in edible oils

1509. SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the plan of Government about market intervention operations in edible oils; and

(b) in what manner Government propose to keep the prices of edible oils at November, 1990 levels?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES & PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED): (a) The Government has asked National Dairy Development Board (NDDB) to conduct Market Intervention Operations (MIO) for a period of five years from April, 1989. NDDB has been paying remunerative prices to farmers under its procurement operations. Further, to provide edible oils to consumers at reasonable prices, the NDDB undertook retail sale of 'DHARA' brand edible oils in small packs. NDDB proposes to increase the sale of 'DHARA' in future.

(b) The Government have taken the following steps to contain the price rise in edible oils:—

(1) Stock limits of oilseeds and oils by dealers, processors and